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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God, our salvation and our hope, when Jeremiah heard You calling him, he tried to evade a response. Jeremiah did not make excuses as we often do. He simply did not remain focused on You. He looked to himself instead and saw himself inadequate for the task You placed before him. As Your word once shook Jeremiah from his self-centeredness, so now call the Members of Congress to look beyond self-interest and be prophetic leaders of this Nation who will do what needs to be done and say what needs to be said.

Strengthen them by Your commission: "Go to whatever people I send You and say whatever I tell You to say. Fear none of them for I am with You and will keep You safe. This is the very word of the Lord."

May all of us be responsive now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BURGESS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that

the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 380. An act to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the funding of benefits under the Civil Service Retirement System for employees of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-696, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the appointment of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) as a member of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission, vice the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 100-696, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, appoints the following Senators as members of the United States Capitol Preservation Commission:

The Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), vice the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN).

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), vice the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID).

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the appointment of Alan C. Lowe, of Tennessee, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Democratic Leader, announces the appointment of Stephen Van Buren, of South Dakota, to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress, vice Elizabeth Scott, of South Dakota.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain five 1-minutes on each side.

### HONORING VETERANS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, in Iraq today heroes are being made and freedoms won. Our soldiers in Iraq are joining a proud group of veterans who have fought to defend freedom and our country in the past.

This morning I would like to share a few words of Father Denis Edward O'Brien, chaplain of the United States Marine Corps, that honor our Nation's veterans. He said, "It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag."

There is a time to fight for freedom. Today our Nation's veterans are defending freedom and this Nation in Iraq. Two little words that would mean a lot to them are "thank you."

### THE FEDERAL DEBT AND TAX CUTS

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, today the House of Representatives will vote to borrow \$75 billion adding to our \$6 trillion mountain of Federal debt. Maybe we would not have to borrow that money if we asked the wealthy people if we could cancel, ask them to contribute a little bit to this crisis, but we will not do that here. What are we going to spend the \$75 billion on? \$10 billion of foreign aid including \$1 billion for Turkey, and remember how

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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